GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2154
ANSWERED ON:29.07.2002
PLAN FOR WATER CONSERVATION
SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether water experts have emphasized the need for a master plan on water conservation;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether a national workshop on ground water and water management was held at Bhopal recently; and

(d) if so, the concrete plan formulated to bring a policy decision on water conservation in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI ARJUN CHARAN SETHI)

(a) to (c) Government of Madhya Pradesh had organized a National Workshopon Ground Water Conservation and Management with special reference to Madhya Pradesh on 16th & 17th June, 2002at Bhopal. The workshop inter alia called upon the state government to set up a separate agency for the development, conservation and protection of ground water and preparation of detailed master plan for ground water recharge by the agency. Water being a state subject, the development and management of all water resources has to be undertaken by the state governments. As such, the Government of Madhya Pradesh has to consider the recommendation.

(d) The National Water Policy, 2002 adopted recently lays emphasis on conservation of water and calls for efficient utilization of water. The Policy provides that the waterresources should b e conserved and their availability augmented by maximizing retention, eliminating pollution and minimizing losses by way of selective linings in the conveyance system, modernization and rehabilitation of existing systems including tanks, recycling and re- use of treated effluents and adoption of traditional techniques like mulching or pitcher irrigation and new techniques like drip and sprinkler may be promoted, wherever feasible.